



Montcalm Community College

Office of the President

October 29, 2014

Senator Mike Nofs
Committee Chair, Energy & Technology Committee

Re: HB 5806

Dear Senator Nofs:

I am writing you on behalf of Montcalm Community College in support of HB 5806. Montcalm Community College implemented an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) in 2012 in the amount of \$1,169,302. Initially, our Board of Trustees, my staff and I were somewhat reluctant to enter into something that sounded too good to be true. After diligent analysis, we moved forward with Ameresco. The process was compelling. First, there were few, if any, disruptions during the nearly one-year construction period. Classes were not displaced and students were not inconvenienced. Second, the project came in on time with no change orders, an unusual occurrence, to say the least. Thirdly, the project resulted in excellent outcomes regarding energy, operational, and maintenance savings. The energy savings guarantee we received from Ameresco was \$124,392. Even with the extremely cold winter in 2013/2014, the actual savings achieved were \$138,012 or about 11% over the guarantee.

If the opportunity to enter into a longer term performance contract had existed at the time of our contracting with Ameresco, the longer project period would have allowed us to provide additional improvements. For example, in our Burns Administration Building, we were only able to replace the single-pane windows in one section of the building. While the single-pane windows no doubt cause energy loss, the term cap on the ESPC didn't provide us the option to upgrade all the windows. I'm confident that HB 5806 would enable my colleagues around the state to pursue more long-term improvements leading to even more energy efficiency improvements.

Please contact me if may be of additional assistance. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Bob Ferrentino
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